

**Burrelle's**  
ESTABLISHED 1888  
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PRESS CLIPPING BUREAU  
165 Church Street - New York

RIVERHEAD, N.Y.  
NEWS-REVIEW  
W. 8,753

AUG 17 1961

## HISTORIC LONG ISLAND



By PAUL BAILEY

### Bank Mergers Not New

With bank mergers a frequent occurrence nowadays on Long Island, some readers may get the idea that the movement is another outgrowth of the modern age. But in 1888 a small private bank opened its doors in Far Rockaway under the name of Wallace, Smith & Company. The following year it incorporated as a State bank under the name of the Bank of Far Rockaway. In 1903 it joined with two other banks to become the Bank of Long Island. In 1920 it merged with the Bank of the Manhattan Company which continued to maintain a branch in Far Rockaway as had the Bank of Long Island.

### A Long Island First

The L I Aviation Country Club, founded at Hicksville in 1928, was the country's, and probably the world's, first such organization, according to Preston R Bassett's chapter, "Long Island, Cradle of Aviation", in Bailey's island history (1949). Wrote Mr Bassett: "For 20 years it served as the model for combining the pleasures of a country club with those of the personal airplane. W K Vanderbilt, C V Whitney, W A Rockefeller, Harry Guggenheim, Nelson Doubleday, J B Forrester, Douglas Fairbanks, F Trubee Davison, C A Lindbergh, Grover Loening and Sherman Fairchild were a few of the charter members." (In reply to A R T)

### Amagansett Celebrity

Our recent brief mention of one-time U. S. Senator Roscoe Conkling's father having been born at Amagansett in East Hampton town, has brought a number of comments and some added information on the elder Conkling. Alfred Conkling came of a long line of east end farmer-fishermen, starting with his great-great-grandfather John, who

spelled his name Conkelyne, and lived in Southold town, where he died in 1694. It was John's grandson Jeremiah who in 1670 moved to the south side and purchased about 200 acres in East Hampton town. The tract fronted on Gar-Fort Ponds. One of Jeremiah's two sons, Lewis, acquired a farm at Amagansett in 1700. Alfred Conkling was his great-grandson, the grandson of Lineous and the eldest son of Benjamin.

Born in 1789, Alfred attended the village district school and after a period of private instruction from the local parson entered Schenectady's Union College in 1806, graduating in 1810. He did not, however, return to the island of his ancestors, but began the practise of law at Canajoharie in upstate Montgomery County where in 1818 he was elected district attorney. Two years later he was elected to Congress and in 1825 President John Quincy Adams appointed him U.S. District Attorney for New York's Northern District in which office he served until 1852.

Meanwhile, locating at Albany, he became one of the State's leading Democrats and a power in national politics. During the administration of President Fillmore he served as minister to Mexico. He died in 1874 in his 85th year and was buried in Albany.

### From Teaching to Tilling

We learned the facts of this story some years ago from George W Case of Peconic. During the 1880s he was a pupil in the little district school at East Cutchogue in what was known as the old Hedge Pasture section. The school principal was one George H Wells who also did the teaching of various subjects including singing, and took care of the big wood-burning

Continued on Page 19

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HUNTINGTON, N.Y.  
LONG-ISLANDER  
W. 12,495

JUL 27 1961

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165 Church Street - New York

BABYLON, N.Y.  
EAGLE  
W. 2,324

JUN 29 1961

## Historic Long Island

by Paul Bailey

Suffolk County Historian

### Amagansett Celebrity

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Paul Bailey

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PRESS CLIPPING BUREAU  
165 Church Street - New York

RIVERHEAD, N.Y.

REVIEW

W.-CIRC. NOT AVAIL. 1,810

MAY 21 1961

## Our Historical Heritage

by Paul Bailey  
Amityville



### Amagansett's Distinguished Son.

A daily newspaper's recent reference to one-time United States Senator Roscoe Conkling as a native of Long Island, although in error, had some affinity with the truth. The famous Senator from New York whose influence as Republican State Leader extended to the national affairs of his party did come from good old Long Island stock, his father having been born at Amagansett in East Hampton town of a long line of East End Conklings. Roscoe, however, was born at Albany.

His father, Alfred Conkling, was born in 1789, of the sixth generation from the family's Long Island progenitor, John Conkel-yne, an early settler of Southold town who died there in 1694 as shown by his headstone in the town's oldest cemetery in Southold village. John's grandson Jeremiah, son of Ananias, became one of East Hampton town's largest landowners when in 1670 he purchased a tract known as "nine square acres" lying between Fort Pond and Great Pond on Montauk.

Jeremiah's son Lewis acquired a farm at Amagansett in 1700 and married a local maiden, Mary Stratton. Of their six children, son Lineous in time fathered Benjamin, born 1757. The latter married Esther Hand and of their five children the eldest son Alfred became the father of Roscoe. Alfred, was the first in his paternal line to turn from farming for a professional career.

After attending Amagansett's district school, he entered Union College at Schenectady. One of his classmates was John Howard Payne, author of "Home, Sweet Home", a native of New York City whose mother and grandparents were of East Hampton stock, living less than a mile from the Conkling homestead.

Unlike Payne, who became an actor and playwright, Alfred Conkling took up law, graduating from Union College in 1810, and choosing to practise at Canajoharie in Montgomery County where eight years later at the age of 29 he was elected district attorney.

This was the beginning of an illustrious public career. In 1820 as an anti-Jackson Democrat he was elected to Congress and in 1825 he received appointment from President John Quincy Adams as United States District Attorney for New York State's northern district, occupying the office with distinction for more than a quarter-century during which period he located at Albany.

He also served as minister to Mexico under President Millard Fillmore at a time when the relations between that country and the United States needed a man of exceptional ability to cope with the situation.

Judge Conkling, as he was usually addressed, was in the opinion of the late Dr Clarence A Wood of the State Court of Appeal's legal staff, a recognized authority in jurisprudence and also in the world of letters. Because of his attainments Union College conferred upon him the degree of LL.D.

He wrote a number of treatises on legal subjects and was in demand as a lecturer on legal and literary topics in this and other States. On his lecture tours he was invariably accompanied by his wife, Eliza Cockburn Conkling whom he had married in 1812 and who became known in her own right as an outstanding woman both for her beauty and accomplishments.

With such parents it is little wonder that Roscoe Conkling was destined to attain a high spot in public life. Admitted to the bar in 1850 he was the same year appointed district attorney of Albany County by gubernatorial appointment.

Unlike his father, Roscoe entered the Whig party and remained with it until the birth of the Republican party, in the organization of which he took an active part. He was one of Lincoln's original backers for the Presidency and himself served as a Member of Congress, and for a short time as Judge Advocate of the War Department, during the Civil War period and until 1867 when he was elected United States Senator at the age of 38. Much of his career, however, unlike that of his father, was marked by inter party strife.

Associated for a time with his fellow Republican U S Senator Thomas C Platt, Conkling lost much political prestige in the party's national affairs. Eventually he quit the political stage and devoted his latter years to the practice of law in New York City



1810 ALFRED CONKLING.

Son of Benjamin and Esther (Hand) Conkling, was born at Amagansett, Suffolk county, New York, Oct. 12, 1789, died Feb. 5, 1874, at Utica, New York. He was a prominent jurist. He graduated at Union College in 1810, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1812. He was district attorney for Montgomery county for a period of three years, and was elected to Congress as an anti-Jackson Democrat, serving from 1821 to 1823. He then removed to Albany and in the year 1825 was appointed by President John Quincy Adams judge for the northern district of New York (United States district court), which office he held until 1852, when President Fillmore appointed him minister to Mexico. On his return from that mission in 1853 he settled at Geneseo, New York, devoting himself mainly to literary pursuits. Union College gave him the degree of LL.D. in 1847. He published several substantial works that had a considerable clientele and were effective in moulding opinion in legal circles, among them, a "Treatise on the Organization and Jurisdiction of the Supreme, Circuit, and District Courts of the United States," and "Admiralty Jurisdiction," "The Powers of the Executive Department of the United States," and the "Young Citizen's Manual."

He married Elizabeth Cockburn.

Children: 1. Margaret Cockburn, born Oct. 29, 1814; married a Mr. Steele. Mrs Steele published "Memoirs of the Mother and Wife of Washington," "Isabell, or Trials of the Heart," as well as a translation of Florian's "History of the Moors in Spain," all works having a good sale, contributing also to current literature.

2. Frederick Augustus, born at Canajoharie, August 22, 1816. Married Eleonora Ronalds.

3. Roscoe, born in Albany, Oct. 30, 1829; died at New York, April 18, 1888.

Genealogical and Family History  
of Southern New York, etc.  
Cuyler Reynolds, Ed.  
New York 1914.

v.1 p.50

1810  
Conkling, Alfred, L.L.D., 1847 1/25/1855  
Pearson Diaries V.4-a

Hon. ALFRED CONKLIN, 1810, a resident of East Hampton, Conn., was a member of the Philomathean Society. (Died: 1874)

Philomathean Catalogue 1830.



1810     Alfred Conkling

"Alfred Conkling, Jurist and Gentleman"

N.Y.State Historical Association  
Proceedings pp. 295-315  
vol xxxvii 1939

## CONKLIN

In your issue of February 26th I noticed an inquiry regarding the Conklin family and here are some leads which if followed up might furnish the reply.

In your Montgomery County Marriages you will find that Alfred Conklin was married to Eliza Cockburn May 5, 1812 by the Rev. John Calvin Toll. They resided in Canajoharie and were the parents of U. S. Senator Roscoe Conkling. Perhaps the records of the Dutch Reformed Church of Canajoharie might furnish further information as he was pastor of that church at that time.

St. Johnsville  
Enterprise News - March 19/1881



7 Highland Way  
Scarsdale, N.Y.  
23 June 1936

Dr. Dixon Ryan Fox  
Union College,  
Schenectady, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Fox:

When I had the pleasure of meeting you in the hall of the Columbia University library, I mentioned my interest in Alfred Conkling, Roscoe Conkling's father, who graduated from Union College in 1810. I told you then that I wished to make certain inquiries concerning Alfred. For instance, I should like to know why he came to Union. I gather from remarks made by Alfred in 1868 to his friend, Gerrit Smith, that his home life, while religious, was not dominated by any strong denominational feeling, and <sup>probably</sup> a college not strictly denominational appealed to the young man and his family. It may be true that the village parson, (probably in Amagansett, L.I., although it might have been Easthampton, for Alfred told G. Smith that the nearest church was three miles away), who prepared Alfred for college was a 'Union man' and may have done a little rushing for his old college.

More important than this is the record Alfred made at college. From the "catalogue of the Philomathean Society Instituted in Union College, 1795", I learn that Alfred was a member. What was this society? (The catalogue published at Schenectady in 1840 is found in the collections of the New York Historical Society.) In 1810, Alfred and 26 classmates were graduated, and as far as I know Alfred took no honors. According to "A Catalogue of the Fraternity of Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha of New-York, Union College", (also in the N.Y.H.S.), Alfred was elected to P.B.K. in 1821. He was active in the chapter, finally succeeding to the presidency in 1832. He also played a prominent part in the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of Union in 1845. The real importance of his college record for my purposes would be to explain how he came to enter the law offices of Daniel Cady of Johnstown, N.Y. Cady was a legislator at Albany while Alfred was at Union and it is possible that he met the young man and was impressed by his record at college.

Dr. Nott had just begun his lengthy career as a college president when Alfred arrived at Union. It is possible that the two men had important contacts. Are there any Nott letters to be consulted? Perhaps Dr. Nott introduced Alfred to Daniel Cady.

I am anxious to find out as much as possible about Alfred Conkling, because I feel that the character and thought of this man had great influence upon his son, Roscoe. Every detail I can work out makes the whole pattern more intelligible.

Pardon me for intruding this long note upon your busy days, but I am so interested in studying my problem that every aspect is likely to get my attention--with the results embodied in the five paragraphs of this letter!

With kindest personal regards and best wishes for your success at Union.

Sincerely, *Harold J. Jonas*







Albany Home of Alfred Conkling, Class of 1810

'ALBANY EVENING NEWS, 1

# Through the Years With Albany

*The Albany Evening News today continues this series of pictures of old Albany in connection with the 250th anniversary of the granting of the Dongan Charter, July 22, 1686*



This house at 351-353 Madison Avenue is the birthplace of Roscoe Conkling, the event taking place here Oct. 30, 1829. Conkling lived here until he was 17 when the family moved to Utica. Conkling was mayor of Utica when 29; served two terms as representative in Congress; three terms as U. S. senator, resigning in 1881 after a dispute with Garfield over New York state pa-

tronage. In 1876 in the Republican national convention he received 93 votes for the presidential nomination. In 1882 he declined an appointment as associate justice of the United States Supreme Court. Caught in the blizzard of Mar. 12, 1889, in New York City he died from the effects of exposure Apr. 18. From 1862 to 1876 the building shown here was occupied by the Christian Brothers' Academy.



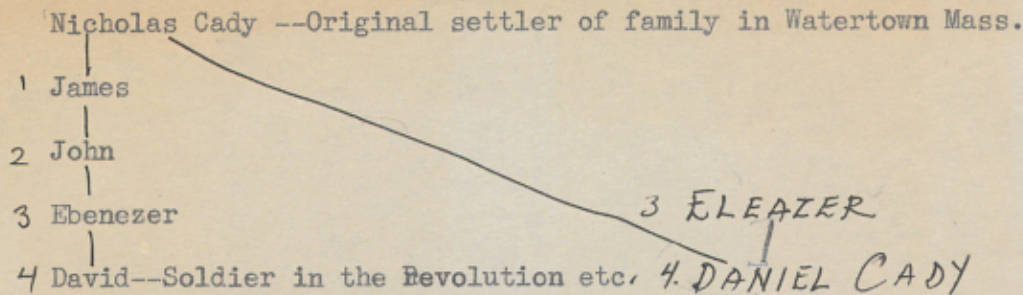
The Utica Whig states that the trustees of Hamilton College, on the 19th, inst. appointed the Hon. Alfred Concklin, judge of the U. S. district court for the second district of this State, to the Maynard Professorship of law and Political economy in that institution. If judge C. accepts the appointment, it will leave, probably a vacancy on the bench.

Daily Albany Argus. Sept. 30, 1836,



## CADY

The Alfred Conkling connections seem to run this way



John Watts Cady a son of a David Cady, a Judge in Montgomery County, N. Y. graduated from Union College in the class of 1808, and entered the law office of Daniel Cady. Alfred Conkling entered Union College in October 1808.

I believe David Cady, and Daniel Cady were probably brothers, though David must have been much older than Daniel. The ~~genealogy~~ biographical accounts of Daniel Cady say that he is the son of Eleazer Cady, and that he is the fourth generation from Nicholas Cady. It would have been easily possible to have confused the names Ebenezer and Eleazer. At any rate ~~they were certainly~~ David and Daniel were certainly related. See: Orrin Peer Cady, Descendants of Nicholas Cady, Palmer Mass., 1910 which no doubt can set you straight on this point.

Daniel Cady's son Eleazer Livingston Cady was graduated from Union in 1826, and died about a month after his graduation. See Elizabeth Cady Stanton in Dictionary of American Biography, and Cyclopaedia of American Biography also Thodore Tilton, Sanctum Sanctorum, New York Sheldon & Co., 1879, p.250.



# GRADUATE COUNCIL, UNION COLLEGE

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

Minutes of the Faculty of Union College, October 3, 1808,

... "from Professors Allen, Davis and Brownell that they had on the 16th of September, examined and admitted into the Junior Class, on probabtion, Alfred Conkling aged 18, son of Benjamin Conkling of Easthampton, L. I."

## Copy of Bill for Alfred Conkling.

Professor Davis for A Conckling  
Session Ending July 26th, 1809.

To wood cutting		\$1.50
--Weeks board -- per week		
--Public attendance	\$2.68	
--Private attendance		
--Public damage	1.50	
Private damage		
Printing	.50	
Candles	1.08	
Stationery	.75	
Incidental expences	1.50	
	<hr/> 8.01	8.01
To half year's general tuition		15.000
To do. in the French Language		
To do. Room Rent		
To. do. Use of Library		.75
To Cash for Gowns		<u>15.39</u>
		40.65

Received ~~the~~ above in full to July 26, 1809  
L. C. Brownell, College Collector

~~The nature of this bill would suggest that he lived with Professor Henry Davis, who was professor of Greek.~~

On April 19, 1810, the faculty voted to award dgreess in three grades, first, second and third honors. Alfred Conckling was among those receiving second honors, and was appointed by the faculty to give the Latin Salutatory at the commenecemnt exercises.

He was recommended to the trustees for a degree by a meeting of the faculty on July 24, 1810.

~~It is very likely that he was tutored for admission to College by the pastor at Easthampton, who may have been a Union man. This proceedure for gaining admission to college was very common at that time. If you can give us the name of the pastor at East Hampton at that time I can see if he was a Union man.~~



7 Highland Way  
Scarsdale, N.Y.

6 July 1936

Mr. D. Richard Weeks  
Graduate Council, Union College  
Schenectady, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Weeks:

Your letter containing evidence of your painstaking inquiry concerning Alfred Conkling and his years at Union College was received. I am most grateful to you for this information, and I shall take pleasure in making use of it. I will be pleased to hear of any other facts you may turn up, and I look forward to hearing from the President of the local Phi Beta Kappa chapter for anything the chapter records may contain. You are right in saying that Alfred was elected as an alumni member. When I have an opportunity to check the records for the Long Island pastor I will do so and thus enable you to determine if this gentleman was an alumnus.

Apparently the Conkling-Cady connection had its origins outside of Union College. Daniel Cady was a legislator in Albany during Conkling's years at Union and it is more than likely that he met the young man in this way. I think a more fruitful line of inquiry will concern Jabez Hammond and I will do this tomorrow when I am in New York City.

I have decided to present most of my material on the Conklings, Alfred and Roscoe, to the Library of Congress, but anything which may be of immediate interest to Union you shall certainly have.

Thank you very much for your kindness,

Yours truly,

Harold I. Jones



June 26, 1936

Dear Mr. Jonas:

Dr. Fox has requested me to give you what information we have concerning Alfred Conkling. Accordingly I have searched all the old records of the College which are available. I am enclosing with this letter some notes copied from the records which may be useful. The Conkling-Cady connection seems a bit vague. John Watts Cady, son of a David Cady, who was a judge in Montgomery County, New York, graduated from Union College in the Class of 1803 and entered the law offices of Daniel Cady. Alfred Conkling entered Union College in October 1808. This seems to be the only connection indicated. You will note on the page concerning the Cadys, which I am enclosing, that Daniel Cady's son attended Union, and I think it probable that Daniel and David Cady were brothers; you can easily check this from the references which I have given on that page.

Philomathean was a Literary and Debating Society which was organized at Union College in 1795 and was a reorganization of the Calliopian Society which had existed in Schenectady Academy since 1793. Schenectady Academy became Union College when the legislature finally granted the charter on February 25, 1795. There were two literary societies at the College at that time, the other being the Adelpic and the outstanding students were likely to be members of one or the other of these. The notations from the faculty minutes will give you what information we have concerning honors. Conkling was evidently elected to Phi Beta Kappa as an alumnus, for that chapter was established here in 1817 and was the first Phi Beta Kappa chapter in New York State. I am asking the president of the local chapter to look through the minutes of the society for any information concerning Conkling.

Dr. Nott had been president for four years when Conkling came to Union; There can be no doubt but what he came in personal contact with Dr. Nott as the faculty was very small and it was Dr. Nott's practice to keep in close touch with the students; but so far as I know there are no letters or other written documents which would give detailed information on this point. The faculty minutes of the period are filled with escapades of the students and the attendant disciplinary measures taken by the faculty; Conkling evidently participated in none of these, in fact, so much of the time of the faculty meetings was given over to handling petty cases that I suspect that this was one of the reasons why Dr. Nott practically abolished faculty meetings after 1820.

You will note the copy of a term bill for Conkling which I am enclosing is addressed to Professor Davis. In as much as there is no charge for board and for room, it is likely that Conkling lived with Professor Henry Davis, who was Professor of Greek and evidently one of the strictest disciplinarians so that in all probability Conkling had little chance to participate in student pranks. As for his admission to college, it is very probable that the local pastor in East Hampton tutored him as this was



Mr. Harold J. Jonas

2

June 26, 1936

one of the common methods of satisfying entrance requirements in those days. If you could find out who this pastor was, we could check our records to see if he was a Union alumnus.

I trust the above and the enclosed notes will be of use to you. If you do find any further information on the relation of Daniel and David Cady, I should be interested in having it for our permanent files, and of course, any records of Alfred Conkling would be of great interest to us.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Harold J. Jonas  
7 Highland Way  
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Dear Mr. Jonas:

~~June 26, 1936~~



The Conklin or Conkling Family ---

The earliest known of this family is the Conklins who settled at or near Buel, town of Canajoharie, N. Y. where there is a Dr. Conklin buried in the old church cemetery. He is said to have been a surgeon in the Revolutionary army, a descendant of his was married by the Rev. John Calvin Toll at Canajoharie where he lived and was the father of the Hon. Roscoe L. Conkling, U. S. Senator from New York. History says that the senator was born in Albany, N. Y. but his birth occurred about one year after the marriage of his parents and they, after their marriage resided in Canajoharie near where the Beech-Nut plant now is. The parents of Hon. Roscoe L. Conkling were Alfred Conklin and Eliza Cockburn his wife. They were married May 5, 1812 by the Rev. John Calvin Toll. Alfred Conklin was district attorney of Montgomery county in 1818 and congressman 1821 to 1823 and resided in Canajoharie, N. Y. This practically proves that Senator Conklin was a native of Montgomery county.

The Enterprise & News  
St. Johnsville, N. Y.  
February 19, 1936.



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\* \* \* "from Professor Allen, Davis and Brownell that they had on the 18th of September, examined and admitted into the Junior Class, on probation, Alfred Conkling aged 18, son of Benjamin Conkling of Easthampton, L. I."

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--Private damage		
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Candles	1.08	
Stationery	.75	
Incidental expenses	<u>1.50</u>	
	\$8.01	\$8.01
To half year's general tuition		15.00
To do. in the French language		
To do. Room Rent		
To do. Use of Library		.75
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The Alfred Conkling-Cady connections seem to run this way

Nicholas Cady - Original settler of family in Watertown, Mass.

1 James

2 John

3 Ebenezer

3 Eleazer

4 David - Soldier in the Revolution, etc. 4 Daniel Cady

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CONKLING, ALFRED, a Representative from New York; born in Amagansett, N. Y., October 12, 1789; was graduated from Union College in 1810; studied law, admitted to the bar in 1812, and commenced practice in Canajoharie; district attorney from Montgomery county 1818-1821; elected as an anti-Jackson Democrat to the Seventeenth Congress (March 4, 1821-March 3, 1823); moved to Albany, N. Y.; appointed United States district judge for the northern district of New York and served from 1825 to 1852; appointed United States minister to Mexico and served from August 6, 1852, to August 17, 1853; located in Omaha, Nebr., and practiced law until 1861, when he resided successively in Rochester, Genesee, and Utica, N. Y., devoted much time to literary pursuits, died in Utica, N. Y., February 5, 1874.

(Tentative biography from U. S. Congress' Joint Committee on Printing.)



CLASS OF 1810.

ALFRED CONKLING.

Judge Alfred Conkling--the father of United States Senator Roscoe Conkling--was, in his later years, frequently seen at Peterboro. (The home of Gerrit Smith, cousin of Elizaebth Cady Stanton) Tal and stately, after all life's troubled scenes, financial losses, and domestic sorrows, he used to say there was no spot on earth that seemed so like his idea of paradise. The proud, reserved judge was unaccustomed to manifestations of affection and tender interest in his behalf, and when Gerrit, taking him by both hands, would, in his softest tone, say, "Good morning," and inquire how he had slept and what he would like to do that day, and Nancy would greet him with equal warmth and pin a little bunch of roses in his buttonhole, I have seen the tears in his eyes. Their warm sympathies and sweet simplicity of manner melted the sternest nature, and made the most reserved responsive.

Elizabeth Cady Stanton      p. 54-55.



CLASS OF 1810

ALFRED CONKLING

Born in Amagansett, Suffolk county, New York, October 12, 1789; died in Utica, February 5, 1874, was graduated at Union College at Union College in 1810 and admitted to the bar in 1812. He served as district-attorney of Montgomery county, as an anti-Jackson democratic member of congress (1821-23), as judge of the United States District Court for northern New Yor (1825-52), and as minister to Mexico. He remained in Mexico for only a year, and upon his return gave his attention chiefly to literary pursuits. He published "Treatise on the Organization and Jurisdiction of the Supreme, Circuit, and District Courts of the United States" (2d ed., 1842), "Admiralty Jurisdiction" ( 2 vols, 1848), "The Powers of the Executive Department of the United States" (1866), and "The Young Citizen's Manual."

History of the Bench and Bar of New York Vol. 1. p. 285  
New York History Co.  
New York  
1897.

✓ CONKLING, Alfred (father of Frederick Augustus Conkling and Roscoe Conkling), a Representative from New York; born in Amagansett, N. Y., October 12, 1789; was graduated from Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., in 1810; studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1812, and commenced practice in Canajoharie; prosecuting attorney for Montgomery County 1818-1821; elected as an anti-Jackson Democrat to the Seventeenth Congress (March 4, 1821-March 3, 1823); moved to Albany, N. Y., about 1824 and to Auburn, N. Y., in 1839; appointed United States district judge for the northern district of New York, and served from 1825 to 1852; appointed United States minister to Mexico, and served from August 6, 1852, to August 17, 1853; settled in Omaha, Nebr., and practiced law until 1861, when he resided successively in Rochester, Geneseo, and Utica, N. Y., moving to the latter city in 1872; devoted much time to literary pursuits; died in Utica, Oneida County, N. Y., February 5, 1874; interment in Forest Hill Cemetery.

*Cong. Biog. Directory p. 838.*



CLASS OF 1810

ALFRED CONKLING

The late Alfred Conkling, for many years District Judge of the United States for the Northern District of New York, was a son of Benjamin Conkling, of East Hampton, L. I., and Esther (Hand), his wife. He was born in the town of East Hampton, L. I., on the 12th of October, 1789. He graduated at Union College and studied law with the noted Daniel Cady, of Johnstown, Montgomery Co., afterwards Judge of the Supreme Court. He commenced the practice of law at Canajoharie, N. Y., about 1812 or 1813. He married Miss Eliza Cockburn, of Montgomery Co., and had children:

1. Margaret C., who married Albert Steel, of Jersey City;
2. Col. Frederick A., of New York, who married Eleanora Ronalds, of New York;
3. Aurelian, who studied law, and became clerk of United States Courts for the Northern District of New York., residing at Buffalo until his death in May, 1860, and who married Harriet Schermerhorn, of Utica, now residing with her children at Jersey City;
4. Eliza T., who married Rev. S. Hanson Cox, of Trinity Church, Utica, and who died in April, 1869, leaving two children;
5. Roscoe, educated as a lawyer and now U. S. Senator, who married Julia, daughter of the late Henry Seymour, of Utica, having one or more children.

The appointment of U. S. District Judge was made during the Presidency of John Quincy Adams. The judge then removed to Albany, and afterwards, in 1836, to Auburn. About 1850 he resigned that position, and was appointed by President Fillmore Minister to Mexico, whence he returned in 1853. He afterwards resided at Utica, retaining, in general, excellent health until his 86th year, when he died. His legal and judicial character will doubtless be well noticed by members of his profession. His numerous publications are mentioned in Allibone. He had a fine personal appearance, and preserved great order in his court.

New York Genealogical & Biographical Record  
Vol. 5 pp 195-6  
1874.



In the American History magazine for August, 1888, there is a sketch of Senator Roscoe Conkling by the Rev. Isaac S. Hartley which thus speaks of his mother.

Judge Alfred Conkling married Elizabeth Cockburn, born in Ulster County, N.Y., the daughter of James Cockburn of Scotland, who, after a few years' residence in his native land, went to the Bermudas, finally emigrating to America, and settling in Kingston, N.Y., where he died a few weeks before the death of his daughter. The younger of Judge Conkling's children was Roscoe whose uncommon name was given through his father's admiration for the sterling character of the lamented William Roscoe, barrister, of England.

Old Ulster  
p/ 331  
Vol. 9  
1913



Roscoe P. Conkling  
No. 375, La Colina Drive  
Inglewood, California.

September 22, 1948.

*Return to*  
Dr. W. N. P. Dailey,  
Pottersville,  
N. Y.

Dear Doctor Dailey:-

Both, Mrs. Conkling and myself were pleased to have your letter of September 14th last. That our efforts to revive the name of John Butterfield and his great achievement have met with favor among those, like yourself, who recall the name, is most pleasing and gratifying, and we extend our thanks for your thought and appreciation.

You treat on so many items of interest, many of which were source material in our book, that I hope you may have the opportunity to glance through our pages and review them. I am informed that the library at Union College has not purchased our book, a matter of personal regret because the names of a number of our branch of the family are recorded there. I do hope, however, that you may find a set in either the Schenectady Library or the Albany Library, if you have occasion to visit those places.

I envy you these autumn days in the region about you, for I have been about the world a great deal but have no recollection of anything equal to the Mohawk Valley region and the gorgeous picture it presents to the eye in September and October.

It was thrilling to know that you had met John Butterfield's famous son Daniel. I had that honor, too, during the Columbian Celebration in New York, when General Daniel Butterfield was Grand Marshal. I was about fifteen, and I remember my father introducing me to the great man in the lobby of the old Fifth Avenue Hotel, and how overawed I was.

Thanking you again for your interest in our work, and with kindest regards in which Mrs. Conkling joins me, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Roscoe P. Conkling.

RPC/L

*I provided several inquiries to Dr. Conkling and his colleagues - but no specific cause. He answers me in the same way.*



The following Conklin or Conklings were Union alumni:  
~~Class~~

1810-Alfred Conkling: LL.D. 1847; father of Roscoe Conkling. U.S. House of Representatives, 1821-23; U.S. Minister to Mexico, 1852-53.

1816-Thomas L. Conklin: Clergyman. Entered from Rensselaerville; died Martinsburg 1851

1841-Timothy Conkling: Clergyman. Princeton Theol. Sem. 1844. N.Y. City; N.Y. City. Date of death not given.

1842-Edgar Conklin: Entered from Poughkeepsie; did not graduate.

1908-James M. Conkling: Entered from Saranac Lake; present or latest address I have, Orlando, Fla. I think he left Union to go to Lehigh.

1836-Cornelius M. Conkling: A. M. Clergyman. Entered from Smithtown, N.Y. Died at Stockton, N.J. 1888. Union Theol. Sem. 1837. Supt. of Public Instruction Frenchtown, N.J. 1870-1876.

Gen. Daniel Butterfield  
From Sigma Phi Catalog (1915)

Union College - Class 1849

Matriculated from Utica

Born Oct 31 ? Died Cold Spring, N.Y.  
July 18, 1901

Career: Express Business

For years Gen. Supt. American Express Co.

Military Career -

Col. 12th Regt. N.G., N.Y. 1859

Volunteer for service - Civil War 1861  
(When 30 years old)

Col. 12th N.Y. Vol. Inf. May 2, 1861

Lt. Col. 12th Regt. Inf. U.S.A. May 14, 1861

Brig. Gen. U.S. Vol. Sept. 7, 1861

Major Gen. U.S. Vol. Nov. 29, 1862

Chief of Staff - Army Potomac - 1863

Wounded at Battle of Paines Mills  
and Gettysburg

Commanded 5th Corps at Battle of  
Fredericksburg

Took part in 28 battles

Congressional Medal for distinguished



Brouwer: Adam - many children - No. 7  
was tytze (dau) who m(1) Hendrickes (2) Mathys  
Cornellison - by whom 2 sons {Cornelius b/169  
- as their ancestors came from Heumen (Hague)  
They were the progenitors of Van Hornes in N.Y.  
Mrs. Meede (Jemie Grant Van Hornes in N.Y.)  
Cornellison came from Hoorne (Hol.)  
Cornelius (1695) became prominent man - as Capt.  
Cornelius Van Hornes headed (1737) an expedition ag.  
Canada. Had some big N.Y. city men in his company.  
He lived at Monmouth N.J. for a time

Butterfield - There is meat Butterfield Pub. Co.

Gen. Dan B. son of John B. of Stage Coach fame  
Utica, N.Y. Born in Berne, Scho. Co. N.Y.

Daniel B. - Union College grad. - class  
wrote "Tape" for U.S. Army.

"Certain Early American Antecedents"

It has about Butterfields of Chelmsford,  
Mass. - descendants of Wm. - whose wife  
was Rebecca Parker. (New Eng. Hist. Gen. Reg. of  
Jan 890 - also Framsetown, N.H. Hist. by  
Cochran Pub. Co (1895) / John Isaac B  
John B. & John Oliver / Wife: Lucinda Bicknell  
Served 1812 War / Oliver Butterfield M. Hamat Dane  
of New Boston



W. M. P. Dailey  
Pottersville, N.Y.  
May 5, 1948

W. M. P. DAILEY  
POTTERSVILLE, N. Y.

~~Butterfield~~

AMERICAN TRAIL SERIES

# THE BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND MAIL 1857-1869

Its organization and operation over the Southern  
Route to 1861; subsequently over the Central  
Route to 1866; and under Wells, Fargo  
and Company in 1869

by  
ROSCOE P. CONKLING  
and  
MARGARET B. CONKLING

Data { Conklings  
on { and  
the { Butterfields

Three  
Two large volumes 8vo (of about 400 pages each) and an atlas of  
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of contemporary documents, time schedules, unpublished letters,  
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THE BUTTERFIELD OVERLAND MAIL was an  
exceedingly important factor in the development of the  
West. It constituted the longest mail route in the world,  
extending nearly three thousand miles. A new thorough-  
fare to the Pacific was opened and the growth of settle-  
ment was encouraged throughout the region it traversed. Establishing  
a semi-weekly line of communication over the uncharted desert which  
separated California and Missouri, it pioneered the way and solved  
many of the problems for the railroad which was to follow.



# Camels Were Familiar Sight in Old Los Angeles

Far East Beasts of Burden Were Imported <sup>18</sup>  
by U.S. Army to Carry Mail and Supplies <sup>48</sup>

["I've read so many cock-and-bull stories about Los Angeles," wrote Archæ E. Hoffman, 840 Masselin Ave., "that I wonder just what to believe. Someone tried to tell me that mail was carried across the desert on camels and that there was a camel postoffice here. Is that true?" It is. Here's the answer. Similar questions about Los Angeles' background may be directed to the City Editor, Los Angeles Times, for route, future, and Notes and the later Central route, has covered a period of over twenty years. It has involved detailed exploratory journeys over the entire length of the routes and endless side-trips to locate and plot station sites. The authors investigated the route of Doniphan, the route of Cooke and Bartlett south through Guadalupe Pass in Arizona and into Mexico, the routes of Marcy, Pope, Smith, Bryan, Beale, the route of the San Antonio and San Diego mail line, and other historic routes. The authors covered over 50,000 miles of detailed travel. Interviews with many old inhabitants living along the routes yielded a vast amount of important material, as did family Bibles and even grass-grown graveyards. Libraries and historical societies from New York to San Francisco were visited, many for weeks at a time, and unpublished data collected. Government documents in Washington bearing on the subject were copied. Relatives of John Butterfield have contributed much important material hitherto unavailable.

**Difficulties encountered.** The story of political intrigue and obstacles overcome, of recruiting drivers and horses, detailed description and cost of vehicles, problems of food and supplies, relations with Indian tribes, dangers and trials of travellers, information concerning character of soil and deposits of minerals, locations of forts, military posts, railroads completed and in process of completion, together with minute descriptions of every station on the three thousand mile route are combined in an accurate account. The Southern route was the cause of much bitter rancor between pre-Civil War politicians of the North and South since this was the largest appropriation for a mail contract up to that time.

**The remarkable map.** The authors' investigations revealed that there was not an accurate map in existence. All available maps, even those belonging to the company, were of little practical value in determination of the routes. Every foot of the routes was covered in field trips by the authors. Two years were required for the mechanical work alone of completing this map from the mass of collected data. It was laid out on a polyconic projection and on a scale of 1:125,000. Joined, the sheets measured 112 feet in length. Later the map was reduced to a publishable scale and laid out on a flat projection. It is reproduced in the atlas in three folding maps



Union College - Schenectady, N.Y.

Conklin (9) Alumni:

- 1 Alfred - Class 1810 - L.L.D. - Father of  
Roscoe Conkling - U.S. House Rep. (1821-'23)  
U.S. Minister to Mexico (1852-1853).
- 2 Thomas L. - Rev. Entered from Russell  
Aeriville, N.Y. Class 1816 - died  
at Martinsburg, N.Y. 1851.
- 3 Timothy - Class 1841 - Princeton Sem.  
Class 1844 - New York City.
- 4 Edgar - Class 1842 - Entered from  
Po'Keepsie, N.Y. Did not graduate.
- 5 James M. - Class 1908 - Entered from  
Saranac Lake, N.Y. Transferred to  
Yale High University. Latest address  
is Orlando, Fla.
- 6 Cornelius M. - Class 1836 - A.M.  
Rev. Entered from Smithtown, N.Y.  
Died at Stockton, N.Y. in 1888.  
Union Theo. Sem. Class 1837 -  
Supt. Public Instruction at French-  
town, N.Y. 1870-1876.

Nos. 2-5 are spelled Conklin - Perhaps  
all should  
end in "g".



## AMERICAN TRAIL SERIES

in two colors in which the details of the original are preserved. These maps are unquestionably the most accurate and detailed maps of the Butterfield routes. The large original map has been seen by several

with them for per-  
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after the map is



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birthplace of John  
s grandfather de-  
gon. He has been  
n early age. He is

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approval, but their  
ent piece of work  
ested in Western  
inal and definitive  
pment."

*Roscoe P. Conkling 375 W. Columbia Dr.*  
**AUTHORS**—Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe P. Conkling of Ingle-  
wood check manuscript of second volume of story of But-  
terfield Overland Mail, result of 20-year research.

Missouri, Arkansas,  
ia, Nevada, Utah,  
oming.



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*UCSCLAF1810conkling-a.00028*



# COUPLE WRITES STORY OF EARLY STAGE LINE

INGLEWOOD, Feb. 9.—After 20 years of work and 50,000 miles of travel in 13 States, Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe P. Conkling of Inglewood have completed a two-volume book, "The Butterfield Overland Mail," on the early-day stage route, longest in the world, from St. Louis to California.

The score of years devoted to the work included interviews with oldest inhabitants in many communities, search in family Bibles and even for names on tombstones in old graveyards and visits to libraries and historical societies from San Francisco to New York. Two years were spent making a map 112 feet long showing the route and location of stations.

*Los Angeles Times*  
*2, 10, 18*  
*Inglewood, Calif.*  
Brick Station Built

The Los Angeles station stood on a 100x150-foot lot beginning 119 feet south of First and and Spring Sts., on land now occupied by the Times Building, Conkling said. This property, vacant except for two water tanks, was sold by John Donwey for \$600 to the Butterfield Mail.

A large brick station, second in size only to the El Paso station, was completed in 1860.

Conkling has had a lifelong interest in the Butterfield Over-

land Mail because his grandfather designed the famous Butterfield "Celerity" coach.

The book is complete even to old timetables and portraits of stage drivers. With it is an atlas of folding maps and 74 plans of the Butterfield stations. It is printed in limited edition by Arthur H. Clark Co., of Glendale.

Conkling says he believes the stage line was a major factor in linking California to the Union.

*"1857-1869  
Butterfield Overland Mail"*

*Gen. Daniel Butterfield's  
father was John  
Butterfield - concerned  
with overland mail routes.*



Conkling Alfred  
Author

1810

no record



1810

ALFRED CONKLING.

DIED:--At Auburn, on the 14th inst.; Mrs. Elizabeth  
Conkling, wife of Hon. Alfred Conkling.

Daily Albany Argus  
April 19, 1851



Alfred Conkling - AB 1810



Alfred Conkling

AB  
1810